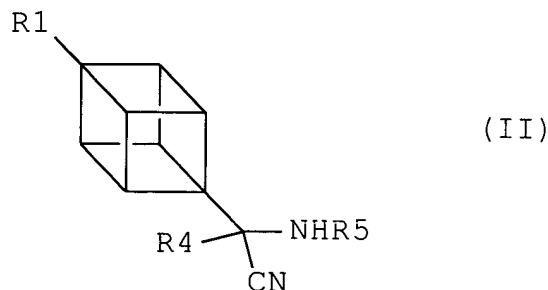


Page 8, line 8, after "xanthyl or thioxanthyl" and before "and",  
please insert ~~+~~ or -CH<sub>2</sub>-xanthyl or -CH<sub>2</sub>-thioxanthyl--.

*A2*  
Page 8, line 8, after "R4 is", please replace "NH<sub>2</sub>" with  
--COOH--.

Page 11, lines 5-9, please replace:

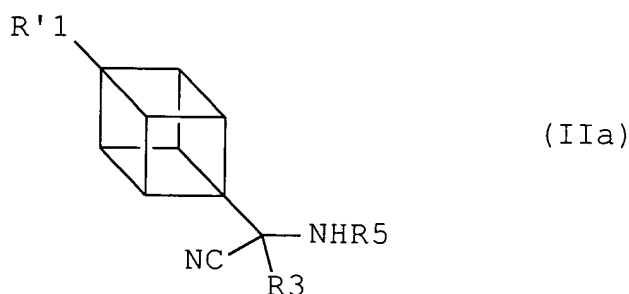
"(a) hydrolyzing a compound of formula:



in which **R1** is defined as above, **R5** represents a hydrogen atom or an acyl group and **R4** has the meaning defined above. Preferred values for **R5** are hydrogen and (2-6C) alkanoyl groups, such as acetyl."

with:

--(a) hydrolyzing a compound of formula (IIa):

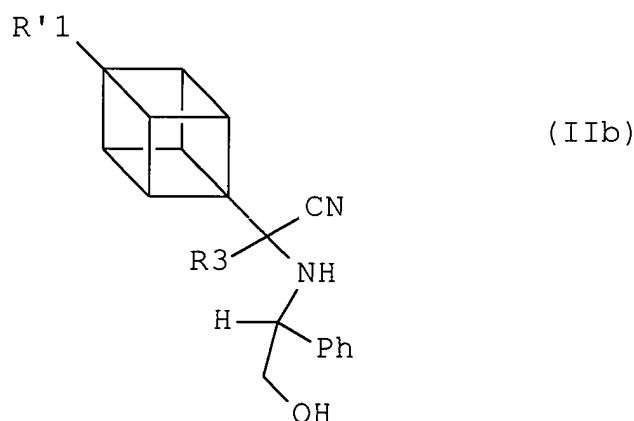


wherein: **R'1** is an acidic group selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, phosphono, phosphino, sulfono. Sulfinio, borono, tetrazol, isoxazol, -CH<sub>2</sub>-carboxyl, -CH<sub>2</sub>-phosphono, -CH<sub>2</sub>-phosphino, -CH<sub>2</sub>-sulfono, -CH<sub>2</sub>-sulfinio, -CH<sub>2</sub>-borono, -CH<sub>2</sub>-tetrazol, -CH<sub>2</sub>-isoxazol and higher analogues thereof, or a protected form thereof, **R3** can be H, aliphatic, aromatic or heterocyclic

and **R5** represents a hydrogen atom or an acyl group. Preferred values for **R5** are hydrogen and (2-6C) alkanoyl groups, such as acetyl; or--.

Page 11, lines 8-9, after "Preferred values for **R5** are hydrogen and (2-6C) alkanoyl groups, such as acetyl; or", please insert:

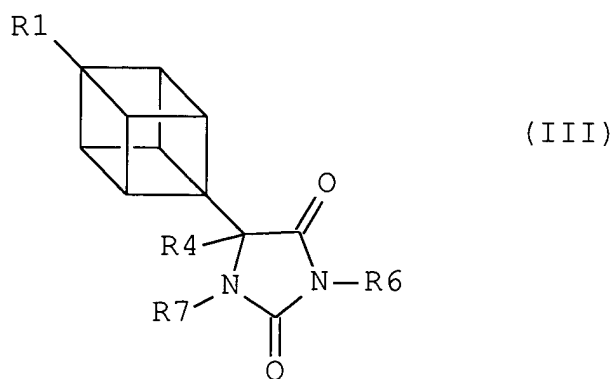
--(b) deprotecting and hydrolyzing a compound of formula (IIb)



wherein: **R'1** and **R3** are as defined above; or--.

Page 11, lines 11-15, please remove:

"(b) hydrolyzing a compound of formula:

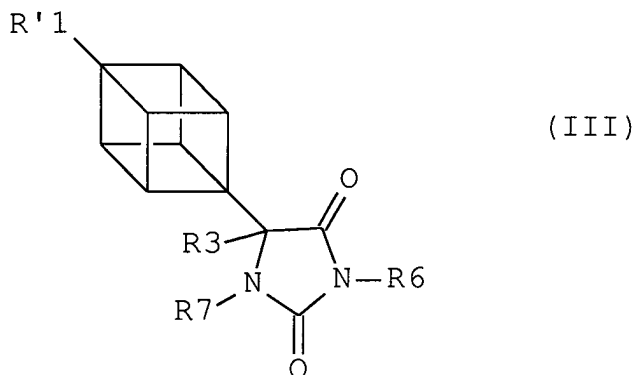


in which **R6** and **R7** each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a (2-6C) alkanoyl group, a (1-4C) alkyl group, a (3-4C) alkenyl group or a phenyl (1-4C) alkyl group in which the phenyl is

unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, (1-4C) alkyl or (1-4C) alkoxy, or a salt thereof; or:"

and insert on new page 11a:

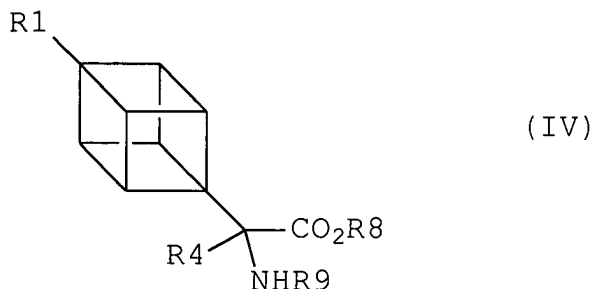
--(c) hydrolyzing a compound of formula:



wherein: **R'1** and **R3** has the meaning defined above, **R6** and **R7** each independently represent a hydrogen atom, a (2-6C) alkanoyl group, a (1-4C) alkyl group, a (3-4C) alkenyl group or a phenyl (1-4C) alkyl group in which the phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, (1-4C) alkyl or (1-4C) alkoxy, or a salt thereof; or:--.

Page 12, lines 1-4, please replace:

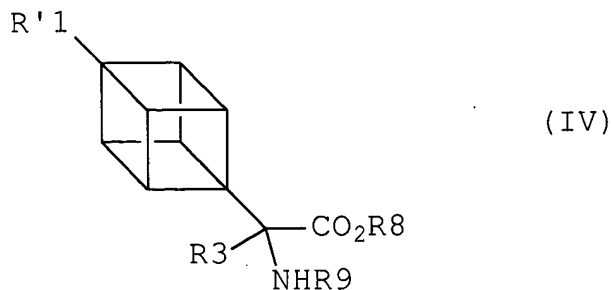
"(c) deprotecting a compound of formula:



in which **R8** represents a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl protecting group, or a salt thereof, and **R9** represents a hydrogen atom or a nitrogen protecting group;"

with:

--(d) deprotecting a compound of formula:



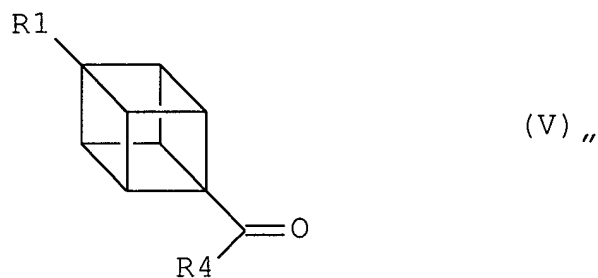
wherein: **R'1** and **R3** has the meaning defined above, **R8** represents a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl protecting group, or a salt thereof, and **R9** represents a hydrogen atom or a nitrogen protecting group;--.

Page 13, line 17, after "heating the compound of" and before "in the presence of either a base,", please replace "Formula V" with --Formula IV--.

Page 13, line 22, after "reacting the compound of" and before "with hydrogen in the presence", please replace "Formula V" with --Formula IV--.

Page 13, lines 29-30, please replace:

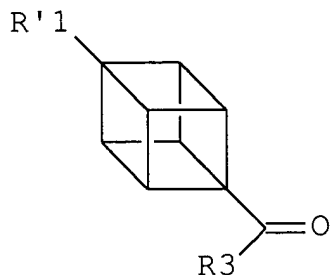
"The compounds of Formula II may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula:



with:

--The compounds of Formula II may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (V):

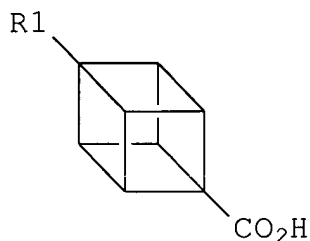
A3



(V) --.

Page 14, lines 20-22, please replace:

"The compounds of Formula V can be prepared by reacting a compound of formula:

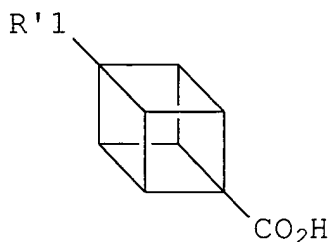


(VI)

with a chlorinating agent such as thionyl chloride or phosphorous (V) chloride, followed by reaction with **R4X** wherein **R4** has the meaning defined above and X is halogen or OH."

with:

--The compounds of Formula V can be prepared by reacting a compound of formula:

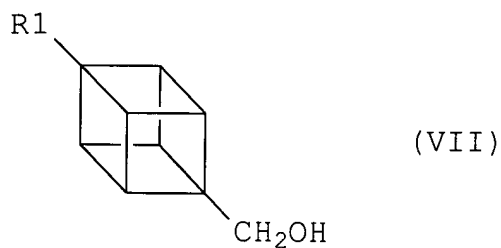


(VI)

with a chlorinating agent such as thionyl chloride or phosphorous (V) chloride, followed by reaction with organo copper or organo metal or Grignard reagent derived from **R3X** or by reaction with ethyl hydrogen malonate in the presence of organolithium, wherein **R3** has the meaning defined above and X is halogen.--.

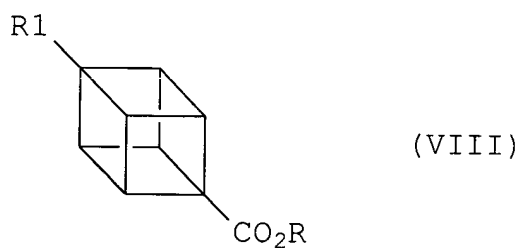
Page 15, lines 1-10, please replace:

"The compounds of Formula V can also be prepared by oxidizing a compound of formula



under Swern conditions.

The compounds of Formula VI can be prepared from compounds of formula:

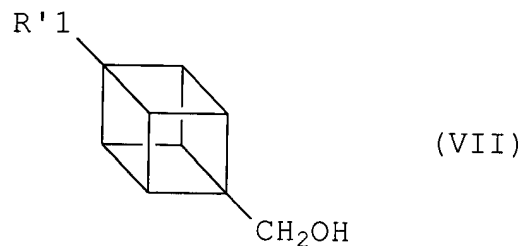


by reduction.

If **R1** is CO<sub>2</sub>Me, this compound can be bought commercially. If **R1** is another substituent, the compound of Formula VIII can be made using standard procedures."

with:

--The compounds of Formula V can also be prepared by oxidizing a compound of formula:



under Swern conditions.